

UNUSUAL INTERPLANETARY ADVENTURES

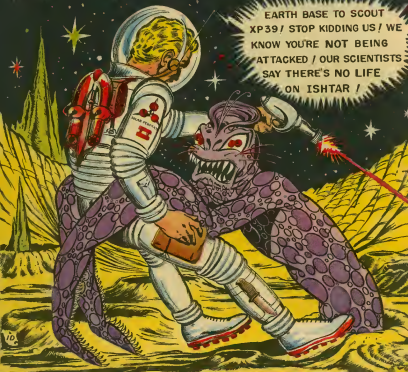
SPACE  
ACTION

# SPACE ACTION

ACE

OCT.  
10c

EARTH BASE TO SCOUT  
XP39 / STOP KIDDING US / WE  
KNOW YOU'RE NOT BEING  
ATTACKED / OUR SCIENTISTS  
SAY THERE'S NO LIFE  
ON ISHTAR /





"The bonds we bought for our country's defense bought and helped equip our farm!"

MR. AND MRS. CHARLEY I. WHATLEY OF CUTHBERT, GA., CAN TELL YOU—IT'S PRACTICAL AS WELL AS PATRIOTIC TO BUY BONDS FOR DEFENSE

*Mr. Whatley inspects a beehive on his 202-acre Georgia farm. "My wife and I wouldn't own a farm, clear, today," he says, "if it weren't for U. S. Savings Bonds. They're the best way to save."*



Charley Whatley says, "Mrs. Whatley and I joined the Payroll Savings Plan in 1943. Our pay averaged about \$40 a week apiece and we put about a quarter of it into bonds. We had saved \$6,825 by 1950."



"\$4,000 in bonds bought us our farm and house. more bonds went for a new truck, refrigerator and electric range. We're still holding about \$1,800 in bonds. Everybody should buy U. S. Savings Bonds!"

## The Whatleys' story can be your story, too!

Your dream can come true, just as the Whatleys' did. *Start now!* It's easy! Just take these three simple steps:

1. Put saving *first* before you even draw your pay.
2. Decide to save a regular amount *systematically*. Even small sums saved this way become a large sum amazingly soon!
3. Start saving by signing up *today* in the Payroll Savings Plan where you work.

You'll be providing security not only for yourself and your family, but for the free way of life that's so important to us all.



**U. S. SAVINGS BONDS  
ARE DEFENSE BONDS—  
BUY THEM REGULARLY!**

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# MISSION INTO TIME!

IN THE YEAR 2014, THE FIRST MANNED SPACE SHIP WAS LAUNCHED INTO THE VAST REACHES OF THE HEAVENS. AN EAGER WORLD WAITED WITH BAITED BREATH, ONLY TO RECEIVE THE TERRIFYING NEWS THAT THE FUEL SUPPLY EXHAUSTED ITSELF BEFORE THE SHIP COULD CLEAR THE EARTH'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL. AGAIN, 2019, AN EXPEDITION MET THE SAME FATE. AND SO IT WENT... IN 2024, 2027, 2031... ALL DOOMED TO FAILURE. FINALLY, IN 2035, CAME ANOTHER ATTEMPT...

VALIANTLY, THE LITTLE SHIP STRAINED EVERY RIVET, ALL TO NO AVAIL. STILL WITHIN THE EARTH'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL, ITS FUEL SUPPLY EXHAUSTED, IT TURNED NOSE DOWNWARD AND HURLED TO DESTRUCTION WITH A RENDING, CRASHING ROAR!



SHORTLY AFTERWARD, THE ELECTRIFYING NEWS WAS BROADCAST OVER THE VISAPHONE

...AND SO, THIS SIXTH ATTEMPT AT INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL HAS ALSO FAILED!

OH, THESE FOOLS! I PLEADED WITH THEM TO WAIT! HERE I AM, ON THE VERGE OF THE SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEM, BUT THEY CALL ME A CRACKPOT!



YOU'VE BEEN VERY SECRETIVE ABOUT THIS WORK OF YOURS, PROFESSOR ARNHALL! SAY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

FROM NOW ON I CAN'T REST UNTIL MY WORK IS COMPLETED, GLENN! IT MAY SAVE MANY LIVES AND YEARS OF WASTED EFFORTS... BUT I CAN'T DISCUSS IT UNTIL I'M FINISHED!



DESPITE GLENN HARLIN'S PLEAS, PROFESSOR ARNHALL INSISTED ON WORKING EVERY SPARE MINUTE, NIGHT AND DAY. FINALLY, A WEEK LATER...

GLENN/HURRY! IT'S FINISHED! I'M READY TO MAKE THE TEST. TO SEE IF IT WILL WORK!

THANK GOODNESS! PERHAPS NOW YOU'LL GET A LITTLE REST! WHAT IS YOUR INFERNAL INVENTION?



A TIME CAPSULE! SCIENTISTS HAVE PONDERED FOR YEARS ON AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF BUILDING A PLATFORM IN SPACE, AS YOU KNOW! BUT THEY'VE BEEN HAMPERED BY LACK OF KNOWLEDGE! IF A MAN COULD TRAVEL INTO THE FUTURE, AND LEARN THE SECRET...

WHY, IT'S AMAZING! BUT WILL IT WORK?



YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE THE TESTS, GLENN! IT'S UP TO YOU... IF YOU'LL CHANCE IT! THINK OF IT... AN OPPORTUNITY TO STEP INTO THE FUTURE, AND RETURN WITH INFORMATION NOT YET DISCOVERED!

WHY-- OF COURSE I'LL DO IT!



I'LL WORK THE CONTROLS MYSELF, FROM HERE!

IF THIS CAPSULE IS TO TRAVEL INTO TIME, WHAT ARE THESE TRACKS FOR?



TIME AND SPACE ARE RELATED, GLENN! YOU'LL PASS THROUGH A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR AN INSTANT! IN THAT INSTANT, 500 YEARS WILL PASS! YOU'LL AWAKE IN 2535!

BUT WHAT ABOUT RETURNING? HAVE YOU FIGURED THAT?



THIS BUTTON CONTROLS AN ELECTRONIC IMPULSE UNHAMPERED BY EITHER SPACE OR TIME! I'LL GET YOUR SIGNAL, BUT BE SURE THE HATCH IS SECURED TIGHTLY BEFORE PRESSING IT! AND REMEMBER... ONLY I CAN BRING YOU BACK TO THE PRESENT!

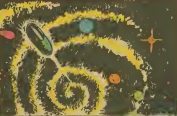


ALL ARRANGEMENTS SET, GLENN ENTERED THE CAPSULE AS PROFESSOR ARNHALL READED THE CONTROLS . . .

REMEMBER . . . IN 24 HOURS BY YOUR CHRONOGRAPH, I'LL BE READY TO BRING YOU BACK! BUT IN CASE ANYTHING GOES WRONG, PRESS THE BUTTON IMMEDIATELY!

ALL SET!  
LET'S GO!

IN A BLINDING FLASH OF MULTI-COLORED LIGHTS, THE TIME CAPSULE SPED UP THE RAMP AND DISINTEGRATED INTO SPACE!



AND THEN, IN WHAT SEEMED TO BE SCANT SECONDS LATER . . .

WOW! IT REALLY WORKED!  
IT'S 2535 . . . AND PROFESSOR ARNHALL'S LABORATORY'S BEEN REPLACED BY A WHOLE CITY!

WHAT IS IT?  
MUST BE FROM SOME PLANET!

STAND BACK EVERYBODY! YOU--STRANGER! DON'T REACH FOR ANY WEAPONS OR I'LL USE MY PARALYZER RAY ON YOU!



WHO ARE YOU, AND WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?

I'M FROM THE PAST . . . FROM THE YEAR 2035, TO BE EXACT! IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT I SPEAK WITH YOUR BIGGEST SCIENTIST!



GLENN WAS BROUGHT TO A "PEACE GUARD" HEADQUARTERS . . .

LET'S BE SENSIBLE NOW! ADMIT THAT YOU'RE A SPY FROM A DISTANT UNIVERSE TRYING TO FIND OUT HOW VULNERABLE WE ARE!

BUT IT'S NOT TRUE! THAT'S A TIME CAPSULE . . . NOT A SPACE SHIP! I'VE TOLD YOU WHY I'VE COME!



YOU CLAIM TO BE FROM THE PAST! BUT IF SUCH A MACHINE EXISTED 500 YEARS AGO, WE'D KNOW ABOUT IT! AND YET WE HAVE NO SUCH MACHINE!

BUT YOU MUST BELIEVE ME!



GLENN WAS TAKEN TO A DETENTION CELL . . .

IT'S UNCANNY! PROFESSOR ARNHALL INVENTED HIS TIME CAPSULE IN 2035, AND YET THEY'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT HERE IN 2535! THERE HAS TO BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION! IF I DON'T GET INTO THE TIME CAPSULE BY 2:00 O'CLOCK TOMORROW AFTERNOON, I'LL BE STRANDED HERE, AND . . . SAY, WHAT'S THAT, UP IN THE SKY?



IT'S A LARGE DISC HANGING IN MID-AIR! BUT WHAT HOLDS IT UP? SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS IS WHAT I'VE COME FOR! IT MUST BE TREMENDOUSLY LONG... AT LEAST A MILE!



THEN GLENN HEARD VOICE'S OUTSIDE HIS CELL...

SO THE STRANGER WOULDN'T TALK, EH?

NOT TO KL-480... BUT WHEN I APPLY MY "PERSUASIVE" METHODS, HE'LL BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO CONFESS HE'S A SPY!



A WILD IDEA SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO GLENN. SWIFTLY, HE PULLED THE SHEET FROM HIS BED, CROUCHED IN A DARK CORNER, AND...

SAY, WHERE IS... WATCH OUT!



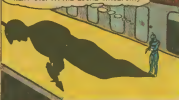
HE'S TRYING TO ESCAPE! SHOOT HIM DOWN!

SORRY TO BE SUCH AN UNAPPRECIATIVE "GUEST," BUT IF THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF FUTURISTIC HOSPITALITY, I'LL TAKE 2035 ANYTIME!



MAINLY BECAUSE OF THE SURPRISE ATTACK, GLENN EASILY SUBDUED HIS THREE GUARDS AND PROCEEDED TO CHANGE CLOTHES FOR SAFETY PURPOSES...

SURE HOPE I CAN PASS IN THIS OUTFIT! I'VE GOT ONE OF THEIR PARALYZING RAY GUNS! I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT ABOUT THAT DISC IN THE SKY! NEXT STOP... THE LOCAL SPACEPORT!



WHY, CAPTAIN-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? SAY-- YOU'RE... OHN!

HE JUST STOPPED DEAD IN HIS TRACKS... FROZEN! THIS IS QUITE A GADGET! THE EFFECT PROBABLY WEARS OFF IN A FEW HOURS!



USING ONLY DESERTED CORRIDORS AND STAIRWAYS, GLENN MADE HIS WAY FROM THE BUILDING TO A FIELD WHERE SEVERAL OFFICIAL CRUISERS WERE KEPT...

THERE'S THE SPACEPORT! FROM WHAT I OVERHEARD, THESE PEOPLE DON'T HAVE NAMES... JUST NUMBERS! THIS BADGE ON THE UNIFORM IS ENGRAVED FR-901! GOOD THING TO REMEMBER IN CASE I'M STOPPED AND QUESTIONED!





I'D LIKE A SEAT ON THE NEXT SHIP TO MARS, PLEASE! HOW MUCH IS THAT?

NO CHARGE / WE HAVE A NEW SYSTEM NOW! LET'S SEE... YOU'RE FR-901 / YOU'LL BE BILLED ON YOUR RETURN / THE NEXT FLIGHT IS IN FIVE MINUTES!



SOON...

TAKE OFF TIME IS IN THREE MINUTES / IT'LL TAKE ABOUT TEN MINUTES TO REACH THE SPACE STATION FOR REFUELING!

THE SPACE STATION / THAT MUST BE THAT FLOATING DISC I SAW FROM THE WINDOW!



ALSO THE WAIL OF A WARNING SIREN THE JET ENGINES CRACKLED AND ROARED. IN A MOMENT THE SPACE SHIP HAD CLEARED THE GROUND AND ZOOMED INTO SPACE!



FINALLY, THE SHIP SET DOWN ON THE SPACE PLATFORM... NOW, IF I CAN ONLY WORK MY WAY OVER TO THOSE BUILDINGS WITHOUT BEING SEEN -- MAYBE I CAN GET THE LOWDOWN ON THIS THING!



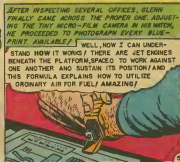
STEALTHILY, GLENN STOLE ACROSS THE AREAWAY LEADING TO THE NEAREST BUILDING, MAKING CERTAIN HE KEPT CLEAR OF THE SWEEPING ARC-LIGHTS...

MADE IT WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED / THESE BUILDINGS LOOK DESERTED, AND THIS ONE SEEMS TO BE THE MAINTENANCE HO/HAVE TO WORK FAST! THEY'LL MISS ME WHEN THE SHIP'S READY TO TAKE OFF!



HEAR THE NEWS? THAT PRISONER BEAT UP THREE GUARDS AND ESCAPED / THEY THINK HE'S ON THE SHIP THAT JUST LANDED OUTSIDE!

THE AUTHORITIES ARE WISE TO ME / ONE OF THOSE OFFICES MUST HAVE SOME BLUEPRINTS SHOWING HOW THE REFUELING PLATFORM IS KEPT SUSPENDED IN SPACE!



AFTER INSPECTING SEVERAL OFFICES, GLENN FINALLY CAME ACROSS THE PROPER ONE, ADJUSTING THE TINY MICRO-FILM CAMERA IN HIS WATCH, HE PROCEEDED TO PHOTOGRAPH EVERY BLUE-PRINT AVAILABLE!

WELL, NOW I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW IT WORKS / THERE ARE JET ENGINES BENEATH THE PLATFORM, SPACED TO WORK AGAINST ONE ANOTHER AND SUSTAIN ITS POSITION / AND THIS FORMULA EXPLAINS HOW TO UTILIZE ORDINARY AIR FOR FUEL! AMAZING!



THERE / GOT 'EM ALL /  
OH, OH / THEY'RE COMING  
NOW / MAYBE WITH MY  
PARALYZER RAY...



THERE HE IS /  
WATCH OUT / HE  
HAS A PARALYZER  
RAY /

STAND BACK,  
OR I'LL FREEZE  
ALL OF YOU /



AGGHH / MY HAND / IT'S  
NUMB / I CAN'T MOVE IT /

LET'S TAKE HIM /  
LOOKS LIKE WE GOT  
HERE JUST IN TIME /  
HE WAS TRYING TO  
STEAL THOSE PAPERS /



RETURNED TO EARTH, GLENN WAS ONCE MORE  
IMPRISONED, THIS TIME UNDER HEAVY GUARD.  
EARLY THE NEXT AFTERNOON...

THEY REFUSE TO BELIEVE THE TRUTH /  
MAYBE THEY'LL BELIEVE A LIE /

VERY WELL, I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING /  
I DO COME FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSE...  
8 TRILLION LIGHT MILES AWAY / BUT MY  
PURPOSE IS TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION /  
MY PEOPLE AREN'T CONCERNED WITH CONQUEST /



YOU LIE / WE'VE  
EXAMINED YOUR FLIMSY  
CRAFT, AND IT'S QUITE  
EVIDENT THAT IT COULD  
NEVER MAKE SUCH  
A TRIP /

WELL, I  
CERTAINLY  
DIDN'T TRAVEL  
THAT DISTANCE /  
I MADE THE  
TRIP IN 10 SE-  
CONDS BY EMPLOYING  
THE USE OF A SPACE  
WARP /



A SPACE WARP? WHY, WE'VE  
BEEN WORKING FOR YEARS,  
TRYING TO DISCOVER THE SE-  
CRET OF WARPED SPACE /

I CAN SHOW YOU  
HOW IT WORKS ON THE  
CONTROLS OF MY SHIP /



SOON...

WAIT /  
DON'T CLOSE  
THE TOP /

I MUST /  
THE CONTROLS  
WON'T OPERATE  
PROPERLY UNLESS  
THE HATCH IS  
SEALED /

JUST IN TIME /  
IT'S TEN SECONDS  
TO 2:00 / PROFES-  
SOR ARNHALL WILL  
BE WHISKING ME BACK  
TO 2035 /

REMEMBER, TRY  
ANYTHING FUNNY AND  
YOU'RE A DEAD MAN /



SUDDENLY, IN A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT, THE TIME CAPSULE WAS OFF ON ITS RETURN TRIP TO 2035!



WH—WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE ARE WE GOING? STOP! STOP AND RETURN, OR I'LL KILL YOU!



KILL ME AND YOU'RE LOST! IF YOU WANT TO RETURN, PUT THAT WEAPON AWAY AND CO-OPERATE!

IN THE NEXT INSTANT, THE CAPSULE MATERIALIZED IN ARNHALL'S LABORATORY...

PROFESSOR ARNHALL, I'VE GOT IT! IT'S ALL ON MICRO-FILM, AND... PROFESSOR! WHAT'S WRONG?



MY HEART. OVERWORK! BUT DON'T MIND ME! WE'VE GOT TO GET THE FILM DEVELOPED... AND TRANSLATED!

LATER...

THERE! IT'S ALL DEVELOPED! IS IT UNDERSTANDABLE, PROFESSOR?

YES-- YES! ANY OF MY FORMER CONSTITUENTS COULD TRANSLATE IT! BUT THIS MAN YOU BROUGHT WITH YOU...?

PLEASE... GET ME BACK TO MY OWN TIME! I'LL TELL THEM EVERYTHING!



PROFESSOR! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! THAT EXPLOSION!

A SHORT CIRCUIT SOMEWHERE! THE MACHINE IS RUINED! THANK GOODNESS WE SENT HIM BACK TO 2035 JUST IN TIME!



I'VE GOT TO GET SOME HELP!

NO! IT'S TOO LATE! MY LIFE'S WORK IS ACCOMPLISHED! TAKE THE CHARTS TO THE AUTHORITIES! LET THEM BUILD THE SPACE RE-FUELING PLATFORM AND SAVE LIVES! OHH!



HE'S DEAD! AND WITH HIM GOES THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TIME CAPSULE! HE NEVER MADE PLANS! THE TIME CAPSULE IS IN THE FUTURE-- THE CONTROLS HERE IN THE PRESENT-- BUT THEY'RE DESTROYED! NOW I KNOW WHY THEY STILL HAD NO TIME MACHINE IN 2035!

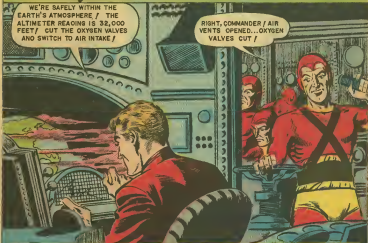


THE END

# FLIGHT *from* DESTRUCTION

WE'RE SAFELY WITHIN THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE / THE ALTITUDE READING IS 32,000 FEET / CUT THE OXYGEN VALVES AND SWITCH TO AIR INTAKE /

RIGHT, COMMANDER / AIR VENTS OPENED... OXYGEN VALVES CUT /



FOR CENTURIES, SCIENTISTS, ASTRONOMERS, CHARLATANS AND FANATICS HAVE PREDICTED VARIOUS MEANS OF THE EARTH'S EVENTUAL DESTRUCTION. BUT LITTLE DID THE GREAT MINDS OF THE 25TH CENTURY EXPECT EARTH'S CIVILIZATION TO FACE THE HORROR THAT CAME ABOUT IN 2430 / HOW LONG THE DANGER HAD EXISTED WAS NOT KNOWN... BUT THE DISCOVERY WAS PURELY ACCIDENTAL WHEN COMMANDER RICK COLTON OF THE INTERPLANETARY SPACE POLICE, ISSUED AN ORDER ON RETURN FROM A TRIP...

A MOMENT LATER, AS THE SHIP KNIFED THROUGH SPACE A SCANT FIVE MILES ABOVE THE EARTH...

UGGNN / COMMANDER... SOMETHING'S WRONG / I-I CAN'T... BREATHE /

QUICKLY / TURN ON OXYGEN VALVES /



BUT BEFORE THE ORDER COULD BE OBEYED, THE ENTIRE CREW HAD FALLEN TO THE FLOOR, CHOKING AND GASPING FOR BREATH. WITH SUPERHUMAN EFFORT, RICK COLTON STUMBLED FROM HIS SEAT TOWARD THE OXYGEN VALVES, BUT COLLAPSED BEFORE REACHING THEM. THE SHIP FLOUNDERED FOR AN INSTANT, THEN PLUNGED DOWN



RICK AWOKE SHORTLY AFTER, BY SOME MIRACLE THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF THE CRASH...

DO YOU FEEL WELL ENOUGH TO TALK? WE'VE BEEN APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE THE CRASH! CAN YOU TELL US WHAT HAPPENED?

HUH? I'M NOT TOO SURE / SHUT OFF OXYGEN... OPENED AIR VENTS / ONLY FIVE... SIX MILES UP / THE AIR... COULDN'T BREATHE!

WHAT'S THAT? WE'D BETTER CHECK ON THAT!

THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING WRONG IN THE ATMOSPHERE! WE'VE FOUND THE AIR UNFIT FOR HUMAN BREATHING ABOVE 25,000 FEET!

OUR MECHANISM FIRED THIS BALLOON TO A SPECIFIC HEIGHT, AND ITS PEAK, IT INFLATED AND SEALED ITSELF! THE AIR IN IT IS POISONOUS!

BUT HOW DID THIS CONDITION COME ABOUT? HOW SERIOUS IS IT?

TERribly SERIOUS! THIS POISONOUS ELEMENT SEEMS TO HAVE STARTED AT THE OUTER FRINGES OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE! IT'S CLOSING IN DAY BY DAY... DESCENDING LOWER AND LOWER!

AND SOON, AT THE SCIENCE COUNCIL, THE NEWS WAS RELEASED...

YES, GENTLEMEN, THE EARTH IS DOOMED! ATTEMPTS TO DISCOVER THE CAUSE AND COUNTERACT IT WILL TAKE TOO LONG! ALL LIVING MATTER ON EARTH WILL DIE! THE ONLY SOLUTION IS MASS MIGRATION TO SOME OTHER PLANET, WITH A SIMILAR ATMOSPHERE TO EARTH'S WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, IS UNKNOWN!

FOR THE TIME BEING, IT WAS DEEMED ADVISABLE NOT TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC, FOR FEAR OF MASS HYSTERIA. TWO DAYS LATER, AT SPACE POLICE NO. 1...

THE PROPER PLANET MUST BE FOUND -- IT MUST EXIST SOMEWHERE, BUT YOU'RE BARELY OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, RICK!

IT STARTED WITH ME! DON'T WORRY... I RECOVER RAPIDLY!

I'M PROFESSOR ZENDER, COMMANDER COLTON A SCIENTIST! I'VE INSTALLED MY EQUIPMENT ALREADY! I'D LIKE TO GO ALONG WITH YOU IF I MAY!

GLAD TO HAVE YOU ABOARD!

MOMENTS LATER, RICK'S SPACE SHIP ROARED INTO SPACE, ONE OF MANY, EACH BEARING A BAND OF HOPEFUL, YET DOUBTING HEROES, AND LATER...

HOW LONG BEFORE WE'RE CLEAR OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM, COMMANDER?

WE'LL PASS MARS' ORBIT IN SEVERAL MINUTES... PLUTO BY TOMORROW MORNING! AND PLEASE CALL ME RICK, PROFESSOR!

**DAYS PASSED, DREARY DAYS OF ENDLESS SEARCHING...**

IT SEEMS HOPELESS, RICK! MY RADAR-COUNTER INDICATES NO PRESENCE OF ANY BODY WITHIN A THOUSAND LIGHT YEARS! YOU'D BETTER CHANGE COURSE!

ANYTHING YOU SUGGEST! YOU'RE THE ASTRONOMER!



**SUDDENLY...**

OOOFF! RICK! RICK... WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I DON'T KNOW, PROFESSOR! LOOK AT THE INSTRUMENTS! THEY'RE GOING WILD!



GREAT HEAVENS! LOOK OUT THERE! WE JUST BARELY MISSED BEING HIT BY THAT METEOR!

THE CONTROLS! THEY... THEY WON'T WORK! IT'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL IS TREMENDOUS! WE'RE BEING DRAGGED ALONG IN ITS TAIL!



PROFESSOR, OUR ONLY CHANCE OF GETTING OUT OF THIS IS FOR THAT METEOR TO BURN ITSELF OUT!

HEY, LOOK! THE RADAR-COUNTER'S ACTING UP!



IT'S A PLANET... AND THE METEOR'S HEADING RIGHT FOR IT! WHAT IS IT, PROFESSOR?

I DON'T KNOW! I MAY HAVE ERRED, BUT IT SEEMS TO BE UNCHARTED! WE'LL BE BLOWN TO SMITHEREENS WHEN THE METEOR CRASHES INTO IT!



WAIT! FEEL THAT? WE SEEM TO BE ACCELERATING!

IT'S THE GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF THE PLANET! IT'S DRAWING THE METEOR EVEN FASTER! NOW WE'RE DEFINITELY SUNK, RICK!



**PROPHETIC WORDS... FOR WITH THE NERVOUS TENSION OF BEING FACED WITH DEATH, NONE HAD CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF DELIVERANCE BY CRASHING INTO THE SEA.**



SEVERAL MOMENTS LATER, ON THE OCEAN FLOOR...

I- I'M ALL RIGHT, RICK! IT'S A MIRACLE WE'RE STILL ALIVE!

YEAH... BUT MAYBE IN A WATERY GRAVE! WE CRASHED INTO THE SEA!



SAY, LOOK AT THESE INSTRUMENTS! WE'VE FOUND THE PLANET, RICK! EVERY CONDITION HERE IS SIMILAR TO EARTH'S!

A LOT OF GOOD THAT WILL DO! THE JET ENGINES WON'T WORK- MUST'VE BEEN DAMAGED IN THE CRASH! LET'S GET OUT THE SPACE SUITS!



BUT THESE ARE FOR USE IN SPACE, WHERE THERE IS NO ATMOSPHERE, RICK! WILL THEY ALSO SERVE UNDER WATER?

NO REASON WHY THEY SHOULDN'T! WE'LL EMERGE ONE AT A TIME THROUGH THE AIR LOCK! REMEMBER, KEEP THE HATCHES SEALED!



LEAVING THE SHIP, THE SMALL PARTY WANDERED ABOUT, AWED AT THE MAGNIFICENCE OF THE UNDERWATER WONDERLAND...

IT'S AMAZING... SO SERENE AND BEAUTIFUL!

SAY, LOOK THERE... AHEAD OF US! SOME SORT OF UNDERSEA CITY! COME ON!



YOU'RE RIGHT, RICK! IT IS AN UNDERSEA CITY... BUT THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY FORM OF LIFE ABOUT!

MAYBE THERE WAS LIFE HERE AT ONE TIME, BUT IT'S DEAD OUT! GUESS THERE'S NO HARM INVESTIGATING A LITTLE!



SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING...

AHHH! WATCH OUT! WE'RE BEING ATTACKED!

DON'T FIGHT THEM! IF WE CAN FIND THEIR LEADER AND CONVINCE THEM WE COME IN PEACE, THEY MAY HELP US!



WHAT'S THE SET-UP PROFESSOR? DO YOU THINK THESE... ER, PEOPLE ARE DEVELOPED MENTALLY?

DEFINITELY! AND ANATOMICALLY, THEY RESEMBLE AN UNDERWATER FORM OF LIFE ON EARTH... THE LANCELETS!



IN ANSWER TO RICK'S HOPE, THEY WERE USHERED INTO THE THRONE ROOM, WHERE RICK PREFERRED A SMALL OBJECT TO THEIR QUEEN, INDICATING IT TO BE A TRANSLATOR.

WE COME FROM A PLANET CALLED EARTH, YOUR HIGHNESS! AND WE COME IN PEACE! OUR PLANET IS DOOMED... AND WE SEEK A NEW ONE ON WHICH TO LIVE!

AND WHAT IS IT YOU WISH OF ME?

YOUR UPPER ATMOSPHERE IS SIMILAR TO EARTH'S, AND WE WISH TO MIGRATE HERE BEFORE WE'RE DESTROYED! WE'VE COME TO ASK YOUR PERMISSION!

YOU ARE WASTING YOUR TIME, EARTH-MAN! THESE PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO MY GOVERNMENT!

A NORDICIAN EARTHLING! THIS MATTER DOESN'T CONCERN GOVERNMENTS! THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE IS AT STAKE!

I AM FROM NORDICIA! AND SINCE YOU'LL NEVER RETURN TO TELL OF IT, I'LL EXPLAIN! MY COUNTRY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POISONING OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE!

IT'S YOUR GOING? BUT... WHY?

OVER THE CENTURIES NORDICIA HAS CONSISTENTLY GONE DOWN TO DEFEAT IN ITS ATTEMPTS AT CONQUEST! BUT THIS TIME WE WILL WIN OUT! EARTH WILL BE FOR MY PEOPLE ONLY!

EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE WILL REMAINED POISONED FOR YEARS! PREPARATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE TO TRANSPORT MY COUNTRYMEN HERE! THEN WE SHALL RETURN AND POSSESS THE ENTIRE EARTH!

TAKE THEM AWAY! IMPRISON THE NEWCOMERS!

UNDER HEAVY GUARD, THE EARTHLINGS WERE USHERED TO A CELL...

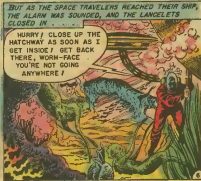
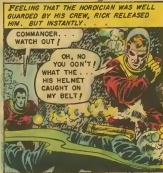
COMMANDER-- THEY'VE FORGOTTEN TO DISARM US! WHY NOT TACKLE THEM RIGHT NOW?

SHHH! NOT NOW! WE'D HAVE THE WHOLE CITY DOWN ON OUR NECKS! WAIT TILL LATER, WE CAN BLAST THE LOCK AND ESCAPE BACK TO THE SHIP!

A SHORT TIME LATER, WHEN THE GUARDS HAD DEPARTED...

LET' HOPE THERE'S NOBODY WITHIN EARSHOT! HEY, IT DOESN'T WORK!

THEN WE'RE TRAPPED FOR GOOD! THERE MUST BE SOME DIFFERENT QUALITIES IN THIS UNDERWATER WORLD THAT RENDER OUR WEAPONS USELESS!



AND MOMENTS LATER...

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, RICK?  
HOW'RE YOU GOING TO  
SURFACE THE SHIP?

BY OPENING THE OXYGEN  
VALVES AND FILLING EVERY  
NOOK AND CRANNY OF THE  
SHIP UNTIL IT'S LIGHT  
ENOUGH TO RISE AND  
FLOAT!



IT WORKED! YOU  
DID IT, COMMANDER!  
NOW TO TEST THE  
JET ENGINES!

THERE THEY GO!  
HANG ON, EVERY-  
BODY! NEXT STOP...  
GOLD OLD EARTH!



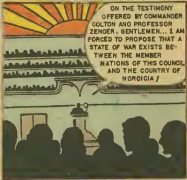
EIGHT DAYS LATER, BACK ON EARTH...

COMMANDER COLTON!  
WHAT NEWS? NONE OF  
THE OTHERS HAS RE-  
TURNED! HAVE YOU  
FOUND IT... THE  
PLANET?

I MUST GET TO  
THE UNIVERSAL  
SECURITY COUNCIL  
...QUICKLY!



ON THE TESTIMONY  
OFFERED BY COMMANDER  
COLTON AND PROFESSOR  
ZENGER, GENTLEMEN... I AM  
FORCED TO PROPOSE THAT A  
STATE OF WAR EXISTS BE-  
TWEEN THE MEMBER  
NATIONS OF THIS COUNCIL  
AND THE COUNTRY OF  
NORCICIA!



AND FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE  
FOURTH CENTURY, HORRIFYING WAR EN-  
DED. THE ENTIRE COUNTRY OF  
NORCICIA WAS REDUCED TO A MASS  
OF RUBBLE IN A MATTER OF HOURS...  
ALL MADE POSSIBLE BY THE USE OF  
ATOMIC AND COSMIC POWER...



WE'VE SUCCEEDED IN DESTROYING  
THE NORCICIAN FACTORY THAT  
MANUFACTURED THE POISONOUS  
ELEMENT, COMMANDER!  
THE WAR IS  
OVER!

I NEVER  
THOUGHT I'D LIVE  
TO SEE IT! THANK  
GOODNESS OUR LOSSES  
WERE MINIMIZED THROUGH  
SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT!



AND LATER...

IT WAS YOUR EFFORTS THAT  
REALIZED THE SALVATION OF  
ALL MANKIND, COMMANDER  
COLTON! FOR HEROISM BE-  
YOND THE CALL OF DUTY, I  
AWARD YOU THE UNIVERSAL  
MEDAL OF HONOR!  
CONGRATULATIONS!



THE END



# HYPNOTIC WORLD OF ISHTAR

For six months the interstellar ship, *Ganymede*, whirled us through strange sections of the Universe. We traversed awesome distances, which had been beyond the reaches of civilization before the now famous F.T.L. Drive had enabled a few ships to cross the intergalactic voids.

Past differences between the intelligent life-forms of Mars, Earth, and Venus were long since forgotten, and we had now been sent on one of the first missions of exploration for the newly-formed Solar Federation.

I, Bryan Douglas of Earth, had as my companions on the journey Snarn of Venus, the jovial, green frog-man, and the sardonic, seven feet tall Xandu, of Mars.

For months, our ship had passed through deserted regions of nothingness, where only a terrible blackness stretched about us for millions of light years.

Finally, Xandu stiffened at the Radar controls. "I've got a blip in the region of the nearest Binary Star," he muttered cautiously. "It's a body roughly the size of Mercury!"

"A planet!" shouted Snarn exultantly. "It's time we spotted one!"

This *could* mean a whole new world—a world of life and beauty. On the other hand, as the cynical Martian pointed out, it could mean *death* for all of us!

Quite suddenly, a black speck against the disc of the star which was its sun, was visible, and shortly after, with the nimble Snarn at the controls, we landed on the sunlit side of the small world we had found!

After the cautious Xandu had reported the atmosphere fit to breathe, we strapped on our ray guns, and stepped carefully from the *Ganymede*!

I was amazed to find that the scenery resembled that of Earth, only the vegetation was more luxuriant than anything I had seen there! Snarn and Xandu were also delighted! Snarn was chuckling happily to himself, while even the unemotional Xandu seemed impressed by the beauty of the new planet.

"Let's start out now!" Snarn exclaimed irrepressibly. "Surely nothing on this glorious planet could be harmful! It may even be uninhabited."

At that moment there was a rustling in the verdant foliage, and before my startled eyes stood an elderly *Human*, surrounded by a group of young people!

The girls were breathtakingly lovely, and the young men were straight and tall, with finely chiseled features. Their manner, as they surged toward us, was warm and friendly.

The older Human, apparently the leader of the group, stepped forward and asked which of us was master of the ship.

I replied that I was captain of the expedition, and

he drew me aside. He told me that his name was Dr. Kurt Mardstone, and that he had been ship-wrecked on this planet, Ishtar, many years before.

"I was astonished to find humanoid life here," he went on to say. "And such Humans! The kindest, most charming people I had ever met! Naturally, having found a Utopia, I had no desire to leave. I married a glorious Ishtarite woman, and have been divinely happy for almost twenty years!"

I agreed that Ishtar was indeed a Utopia. "But, you've seen nothing yet!" exclaimed Dr. Mardstone rapturously. "You must visit our lovely city, Eriwon, as my guests!"

I called to Snarn and Xandu, who were chatting gayly with the group of youths and maidens, and informed them of Dr. Mardstone's invitation to stay with him while we made our exploration of the planet.

Led by our host, we walked the short distance to the fabulous city of Eriwon. Glittering fountains of solid gold gleamed in the warm, bright sunshine; sparkling crystal towers soared into the purple sky. A dazzling array of tropical flowers bloomed everywhere, and the soft, balmy air was heavily scented with their sweet perfume. The streets were of a golden metal, and the entire city sparkled with cleanliness!

Handsome, young men and women lounged on the sunny terraces, or sauntered contentedly down the shining streets.

Xandu, Snarn and I were captivated as we walked alongside Dr. Mardstone toward his home.

"I can't blame you for never wanting to leave!" I exclaimed. "I'm only sorry we must."

Dr. Mardstone laughingly responded, "But, why speak of leaving? You've only just arrived!"

"Ah, but we are explorers," Xandu broke in. "We are used to visiting places, and leaving after a short time!"

"Well, we shan't speak of your leaving yet," Dr. Mardstone stated firmly. "Here we are at my home!"

Dr. Mardstone's wife and daughter were standing in the flowered courtyard waiting for us. I thought I had seen all the beauty there was in the world, but Mardstone's wife, and especially his daughter, were ravishing! I fell in love with Lorna the moment I saw her, and judging from the ecstatic look on Snarn's green face, and the quiet admiration on Xandu's, they too found her beauty thrilling! I determined then and there to take Lorna with me when we left.

Dr. and Mrs. Mardstone were faultless hosts during our stay on Ishtar. Only when we spoke of leaving their eyes veiled, and one of them would change the subject.

I became rather uneasy because of this, and decided

one morning to stroll down to the Ganymede with Snarn and Xandu, to radio Earth of our discovery.

Lorna found us in the garden, and linking her arm through mine, murmured softly, "Do you leave us already, Bryan?"

"Only for a short while, Lorna," I replied. "We have business at the ship. But, I assure you, I won't leave before I've spoken to your father about a most important matter!"

Lorna smiled, but Snarn and Xandu threw me a look of suspicion, almost distaste. However, since neither of them gave any indication of what was annoying them, I forgot it as the three of us trudged to the Ganymede in silence.

Once there, I turned on the ultra-beam radio, but before Earth could be contacted, Snarn cried out in consternation, "By the stars! Look!"

Three hideous, slime-dripping Things of a shapeless, gelatinous substance slithered toward us from their hiding place in the air-lock.

Before I could draw my ray gun, one of them wrapped itself around me in a slimy, death-like embrace! I could feel its clammy tentacles crushing the life from me, and then everything went black!

When I regained consciousness, I was lying in the forest! Dr. Mardstone, his wife and Lorna were bending over me, and Snarn and Xandu were shaking themselves groggily.

"Good grief!" I gasped. "What happened? What were those ghastly things?"

"What things?" asked Dr. Mardstone, in alarm. Snarn, Xandu and I began trying to explain what we had seen.

The Mardstones looked horrified. "But, you must be mistaken," Lorna cried. "No such monsters exist on our beautiful planet!"

"Indeed not!" interposed Dr. Mardstone. "It must be imagination, or perhaps you were overcome by climatic differences. The air here is slightly thinner than that of earth."

"It wouldn't affect me," clipped Xandu. "The air of Mars is one-fifth as dense as this!"

Xandu had an odd expression on his saturnine face, as he stated brusquely, "We are leaving Ishtar immediately! We have already been gone longer than our allotted time!"

"And," I broke in, turning to Lorna, "I want you to come with me, as my wife!"

Before she could answer, Snarn whirled toward me, his scaly, green fists clenched. "Bryan, you foolish Earthman," he stormed, "It is I who loves Lorna, and she loves me! We are going to be married!"

"Please," began Lorna, but at that moment Xandu, his red face hard with anger, drew out his ray gun. Before I realized what he was about to do, he shot Dr. Mardstone, his wife, and Lorna.

Instantly, they turned into the grisly, slimy monsters that had attacked us, only now, they lay motionless on the ground, exuding a greenish liquid.

Incredulously, Snarn and I turned to Xandu, as he

calmly replaced his ray gun in its holster.

"How did you know?" I stammered, while the poor, plump Snarn sat down heavily on a rock, and stared dazedly at the Things heaped on the ground.

"Very simple," said the taciturn Xandu. "You are an Earthman, this silly, little Venusian is a frog-man, while I am a Martian standing seven feet high! How could we possibly find the same woman attractive?"

"I saw her as a beautiful, blue-eyed brunette," I cried.

"And I thought she was a ravishing frog-girl, with gorgeous blue hair," moaned Snarn.

"While I thought she was a Martian," Xandu continued, "just as I have seen everyone, except Mardstone, as Martians on this planet! They are, I realize now, super-hypnotists, who can make people see them precisely as they wish to be seen."

"So, that's why the Mardstones turned into those Things when we tried to contact Earth!" I exclaimed. "The radio waves interfered with the hypnotic rays!"

Suddenly, we saw the strange monsters of Ishtar coming for us! They had turned themselves into all manner of things to frighten us—huge dragons, spitting flames, raging lions, lumbering dinosaurs, and other nightmare visions impossible to describe!

We ran for our lives! Snarn was caught, and crushed by an enormous python I lost sight of Xandu, and as I jumped into the ship, I feared that I had been the only one to escape. But, I was relieved to find that Xandu had arrived before me.

"Blast off!" he cried. I slammed down on the firing switch, and the surging jets threw me to the deck.

Soon we were rocketing away from the mad world of Ishtar. I set the controls toward Earth, and strode over to the window where Xandu was standing.

"Poor Snarn," I murmured sadly. "I hope he really was dead! Who knows what those monsters would do to him if he were still alive?"

"Oh, he was quite dead," Xandu replied. "Didn't you notice that his body became colorless when the python coiled around him? He was completely grey when I saw him lying on the ground!"

I spun around and stared, horror-stricken, at Xandu. His face was drawn, as he stammered, "What is it, Bryan? You look so strange!"

I drew my ray gun, and enjoyed watching the searing beam tear into the form of Xandu. Slowly, he writhed to the floor, and before my sickened eyes dissolved into a green, pulpy mass.

The monster groaned, and as he was dying, managed to gasp out, "How did you know that I had killed Xandu, and taken his place in order to get to Earth?"

I stared with loathing at the dying monster. "You were very clever," I said bitterly, "but, you made one fatal mistake. My friend Xandu could not have seen Snarn turn color as he died. You see, Martians are color-blind!"

THE END

# Beware the

# HUMAN METEORITES

THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES  
COSMO, REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE EARTHMEN!

OUR COMBINED INTERPLANETARY ARMIES HAVE PROVED  
USELESS AGAINST THESE INVADERS! THEY SCATTER US LIKE  
THE WINDS AND ATTACK AT WILL! THE PLANET MARS WAS  
BLOWN TO BITS YESTERDAY! THE WHOLE PLANETARY  
SYSTEM HAS BEEN DISTURBED!



IT WAS TROUBLESOME TIMES AMONG THE SPHERES IN THE  
YEAR 2552 THE MAJOR PLANETS WERE JUST EVOLVING  
INTERPLANETARY LAWS AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG THEM-  
SELVES, WHEN SUDDENLY SAVAGE CREATURES FROM SPACE  
YET UNEXPLORED WENT ON THE RAMPAGE THEIR VOLCANIC  
METEORS STRUCK WITHOUT WARNING MANY SMALLER  
PLANETS HAD ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED BY THIS UN-  
KNOWN ENEMY, WHEN A MEETING WAS CALLED IN THE  
VAST INTERPLANETARY CONFERENCE CHAMBER IN THE  
DEPTHS OF THE MOON REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL THE  
KNOWN WORLDS WERE THERE TO DISCUSS THIS NEW  
DANGER TO EXISTENCE...

INSTEAD OF ARMIES, WHY DO WE NOT TRY THE  
SPY SYSTEM? ONE MAN TO FIND OUT THEIR SECRET--  
THEIR BASE OF OPERATION--  
THEIR VULNERABLE  
POINT, SO THAT THEY  
MAY BE DESTROYED  
BEHIND THEIR  
LINES!



COSMO, THE REPRESENTATIVE  
FROM EARTH, MAY BE RIGHT! I  
MOVE THAT HE BE THE FIRST  
ONE TO ATTEMPT TO LEARN  
THE SECRET OF THE  
INVADERS!

I SECONDO  
THE MOTION OF  
PECHAZUR OF  
MERCURY! LET  
COSMO SEE  
WHAT HE CAN  
DO!



AS THE DELEGATES FROM THE OTHER PLANETS  
POURED OUT OF THE CONFERENCE CHAMBER OF THE  
MOON INTO THE MAST HALL THAT WAS PART OF THE  
MOON'S UNDERGROUND LABYRINTH, NAPHTALI OF  
MARS CAUGHT UP WITH COSMO...

YOU HAVE UNDERTAKEN A  
HAZARDOUS MISSION, COSMO!  
YOU WILL NEED HELP FROM  
THE OTHER PLANETS!



MY DEAR NAPHTALI, HAVEN'T YOU  
LEARNED THAT WHEN EARTH JOINED  
OUR UNION OF PLANETS, IT REGARDED  
ITSELF AS SUPERIOR TO  
THE REST OF US?

THAT  
ISN'T  
TRUE,  
OEVEL!



WE BELIEVE THAT ONE MAN  
STANDS A BETTER CHANCE  
AGAINST THE METEORITES,  
RATHER THAN SACRIFICING  
ANY MORE OF OUR COMBINED  
ARMIES!



I COULDN'T ASK FOR A  
VOLUNTEER FROM ANY  
OTHER PLANET TO RISK  
HIS LIFE FOR MY IDEA,  
AND SO I AM WILLING TO  
RISK MY OWN LIFE TO FIND  
OUT WHERE THESE FIEND-  
ISH THINGS COME FROM,  
AND SOME MEANS OF  
GETTING RID OF THEM!



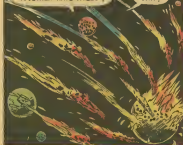
SUDDENLY OEVEL POINTED UP TO  
WHERE, THROUGH ONE OF THE CRATER-  
GLASS OBSERVATION WINDOWS, MAG-  
NIFIED VIEWS OF THE SKY COULD  
BE SEEN.

THEN YOU HAD BETTER HURRY,  
COSMO! BECAUSE THERE THEY GO  
ON ANOTHER RAID! IT LOOKS AS  
THOUGH VENUS IS THEIR GOAL!



AND YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN  
SUCCEED IN RIDING THE UNIVERSE  
OF THESE DESTROYERS, EARTHMAN,  
WHEN ALL THE REST OF US  
TOGETHER HAVE FAILED?

YES,  
OEVEL--  
I THINK  
THAT I  
CAN!



WELL, WE SHALL ALL BE WATCHING YOUR  
EFFORTS WITH INTEREST! COME, NAPHTALI--  
SINCE YOU HAVE LOST YOUR OWN PLANET, I  
OFFER YOU THE HOSPITALITY OF MY  
OWN PLANET--JUPITER.





THANK YOU, DEVEL -- BUT I HAVE DECIDED TO GO TO THE EARTH WITH COSMO!

SUIT YOURSELF!



YOU ESCAPED BEING BLOWN TO BITS WITH MARS, BUT YOU MAY NOT BE SO LUCKY ON EARTH! IF THE METEORITES CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THEIR COURSE, THE DESTRUCTION OF EARTH WILL BE NEXT!

WRAPPED IN THEIR GRIVITY CLOAKS, COSMO AND NAPHTALI LEFT THE MOON BY ONE OF THE CRATER ENTRANCES WHERE COSMO HAD MOORED HIS SPACE-SHIP JUST AHEAD OF THEM. DEVEL STREAKED BACK TOWARD JUPITER AND ONE OF ITS SMALL SATELLITES OF WHICH HE WAS THE GOVERNOR . . .



I WAS LUCKY TO BE ON SPACE-SHIP DUTY THE DAY THE METEORITES LANDED ON MARS! THOSE OF US WHO WERE OUT IN SPACE THAT DAY ARE ALL THAT IS LEFT OF MY POOR PLANET!



AND ON DEVEL'S SPACE SHIP...

SETTING THE CONTROLS SO THAT THE METEORITES STRUCK WHILE I WAS AT THE CONFERENCE WAS A CLEVER TRICK! NO ONE COULD POSSIBLY DREAM THAT I WAS THE POWER BEHIND THEM! HA/HA!



WHILE COSMO AND NAPHTALI HEADED BACK TO EARTH, DEVEL REACHED THE SECRET SPACE STATION HE HAD BUILT ON HIS SATELLITE...

ANOTHER PLANET ALMOST DESTROYED! BY FINDING THESE LOST CREATURES WHO WERE DRIFTING IN SPACE, AND EXPERIMENTING UNTIL I FOUND THE WAYS TO CONTROL THEM, I WILL SOON BE THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE UNIVERSE!



I WILL DESTROY ALL WORLDS BUT JUPITER, AND I WILL HAVE CONTROL OVER THAT AND ALL THE OTHER SATELLITES BEFORE LONG! PERHAPS IT WILL BE WELL TO SEND A FEW METEORITES TO DESTROY COSMO AND THE GIRL BEFORE THEY REACH EARTH!

SUDDENLY, AS COSMO'S SPACE SHIP WAS HALF-WAY BETWEEN MOON AND EARTH, SEVERAL OF THE HUMAN METEORITES, GUIDED BY DEUEL'S CONTROLLING RAYS, TRAVELING WITH THEIR USUAL FRIGHTFUL SPEED AND UNEXPECTEDNESS, STRUCK THE SHIP AND BLASTED IT APART!



THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION BLEW COSMO AND NAPHTALI INTO AIRSPACE, WHILE THE METEORITE MONSTERS SWEEP ON THEIR DESTRUCTIVE WAY...

WOW! THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE! THROW YOUR GRAVITY CLOAK AWAY, NAPHTALI! MAYBE WE CAN FLOAT AWHILE, AND HOPE A SPACE PATROL SHIP COMES ALONG AND RESCUES US!

WE WERE LUCKY! I DON'T KNOW HOW WE ESCAPED!



SO FAR THE HUMAN METEORITES HAVE NEVER ATTACKED ANYTHING LESS THAN A PLANET! IT'S STRANGE THAT OUR LITTLE SPACE SHIP SHOULD HAVE BEEN HONORED BY A

I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

SPECIAL ATTACK!



I FEEL THESE MONSTERS ARE BEING DIRECTED BY A HIGHER INTELLIGENCE -- A TRAITOR IN ONE OF THE SPHERES! THEIR ATTACK ON OUR SPACE SHIP WAS MEANT TO KEEP ME FROM GETTING BACK TO EARTH AND STARTING OUT ON MY MISSION!

LOOK! A PATROL SHIP! WE'RE SAVED!



THE PATROL SHIP WAS FROM EARTH...

I'M GLAD YOU CAME WITH THE PATROL SHIP, PROFESSOR -- AND I SEE YOU HAVE THE EQUIPMENT WE PLANNED TO USE! IF YOU WILL TAKE NAPHTALI BACK TO EARTH, I'LL START OUT IMMEDIATELY ON MY MISSION!

YES, YES-- IT IS MOST IMPORTANT, COSMO!



I AM ASSURED NOW THAT YOU ARE RIGHT -- THAT THESE THINGS ARE BEING DIRECTED! BUT WE MUST DEAL IMMEDIATELY WITH THE METEORITES THEMSELVES, BEFORE THEY CAN ATTACK AGAIN, AND THEN SEARCH FOR THE TRAITOR!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, COSMO, DRESSED IN A STRANGE, FLAMING COSTUME INVENTED BY THE PROFESSOR, AND CARRYING THE APPEARANCE OF THE HUMAN METEORITES, WAS SENT THROUGH SPACE ON THE FASTEST ROCKET YET DESIGNED BY MAN, AND ON THE MOST PERILOUS MISSION EVER UNDERTAKEN BY AN EARTHMAN!



THIS ROCKET WILL SEND ME INTO THEIR MIDST AT PRACTICALLY THEIR OWN SPEED! THE AIR-RESISTANCE WILL MAKE MY FLAMES SEEM AS SCINTILLATING AS THEIR BODIES, AND I'LL BE INDISTINGUISHABLE FROM THEM!

HITTING VENUS UNDETECTED, AND LIKE ONE OF THE HUMAN METEORITES, COSMO FOUND A SCENE OF UTMOST HORROR AND DESTRUCTION!

THEY DESTROY JUST FOR THE SAKE OF DESTROYING! NOW IF I CAN GRAB ONE FROM THE REAR AND HANG ON, I'LL USE HIM AS A PILOT TO CARRY ME WITH THEM WHEN THEY LEAVE!

HOPE THIS WORKS! IF IT WASN'T FOR THIS DOUBLE SUIT THE PROFESSOR INVENTED, I'D BE ROASTED TO A CRISP, JUST GETTING NEAR THE CREATURE!

IT DIDN'T EVEN STOP HIM! AND THE PROFESSOR TOLD ME NOT TO USE HIS NEW ZEBULON-RAYS UNTIL I TRAILED THE MONSTERS TO THEIR SPACE HABITAT, WHERE I COULD GET THEM ALL AT ONCE!

BACK ON EARTH, THE PROFESSOR AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED COUNTRIES OF EARTH, AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, WORRIEDLY WATCHED THEIR INTERPLANETARY TELEVISION...

AND YOU THINK COSMO CAN ENCORE THE INFERNO THE HUMAN METEORITES HAVE MADE OF POOR VENUS, PROFESSOR BLACKWOOD?

I HAD TWO SUITS MADE FOR HIS DISGUISE! THE OUTER COVER IS OF TERRESTRIAL SILICA WITH A FLAME SURFACE I INVENTED! THE INNER SUIT, WHICH ALSO COVERS HIS FACE AND HEAD, WILL RESIST HEAT, COLD, RAYS AND MAGNETIZATION! AND HE CARRIES WITH HIM THE NEW RAY I HAVE KEPT A SECRET UNTIL NOW!

UNLESS ZEBULON-RAYS ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO BLAST THESE METEORITES BACK INTO SPACE, WE ARE ALL INDEED LOST! EVEN NOW, THEY COULD EASILY BE ON THEIR WAY TO EARTH!



OUR MOST SENSITIVE RADAR WARNING SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN USELESS IN PROTECTING THE PLANETS FROM THE METEORS! AT THE SPEED WITH WHICH THEY TRAVEL, 40 MILES A SECOND-- NO ONE CAN EVEN SEE THEM UNTIL A SPLIT-SECOND BEFORE THEY LAND!



BACK ON VENUS, COSMO REALIZED HE WAS NOT ONLY FIGHTING FOR HIS OWN LIFE, BUT THE LIFE OF ALL THE EXISTING PLANETS!

I'VE GOT TO TAKE A CHANCE!  
UGH! IT'S LIKE KNOCKING OVER A BUILDING!



HAS HE ANY WAY OF COMMUNICATING WITH THE OTHERS, OR DO ALL THEIR IMPULSES COME FROM AN OUTER CONTROL, AS I HAVE SUSPECTED? WELL, I'VE GOT TO RISK IT!



THE HUMAN METEORITE GOT TO ITS FEET, FURIOUSLY TRYING TO DISLODGE COSMO, WHO GLUNG TO ITS BACK...

IF I'VE FIGURED RIGHT, THE MASTER MIND CALCULATES HIS MONSTERS HAVE DONE ENOUGH DAMAGE TO VENUS, AND IT'S TIME TO SEND THEM BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!



SUDDENLY THE CREATURE STOPPED STRUGGLING AS THOUGH SOME INNER FORCE HAD GIVEN IT A COMMAND. STIFFENING, IT ROSE WITH METEORIC FLASHING SPEED, CARRYING THE EARTHMAN WITH IT...

THIS IS IT! I HOPE I MAKE IT!



AS COSMO GLUNG TO THE BACK OF THE METEORITE HE HAD KNOCKED DOWN, THE GREAT HORDE MOUNTED BACK THROUGH THE SKY ON THE WAY TO THE SPACE FROM WHICH THEY CAME, AND FROM WHERE THEY WOULD COME AGAIN AND AGAIN, UNTIL THE WHOLE UNIVERSE WAS DESTROYED.



BACK ON EARTH, THE WORRIED GROUP SAW THE TRAJECTORY COURSE OF THE METEORITES AS THEY LEFT THE PLANET THEY HAD SET AFLAME.

THERE THEY GO! DO YOU THINK COSMO COULD POSSIBLY BE WITH THEM, OR HAVE THEY DESTROYED HIM?

AT THIS MOMENT, I DO NOT KNOW!





WHAT IS YOUR PLAN? AND WHAT WILL THIS NEW RAY OF YOURS DO TO THEM? WHY HAVE THESE THINGS COME OUT OF SPACE TO DESTROY US?

ACCEPTING THE PLANETESIMAL HYPOTHESIS, THESE METEORIC BODIES COULD BE THE DEBRIS OF EVOLUTION -- FRAGMENTS LEFT OVER AS PARTS OF PLANETESIMALS THAT WERE DESTROYED BEFORE ACHIEVING FULL GROWTH!



THESE FLAMING FRAGMENTS HAVE SOMEHOW ASSUMED ALIEN LIFE-FORM! I FEEL THAT SOMEONE ON ONE OF THE PLANETS WHO DISCOVERED THESE LOST CREATURES DRIFTING IN SPACE HAS LEARNED TO DIRECT THEIR MALEVOLENT FORCES TO FURTHER HIS OWN ENDS!

WHILE THE PROFESSOR EXPLAINED HIS NEW ZEBULON-RAY AND WHAT HE HOPED COSMO COULD ACCOMPLISH WITH IT, IN THE SECRET LABORATORY ON ONE OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES, DEVEL MADE A STARTLING DISCOVERY...

THE LIGHTS! THE ALARM! THERE IS A FOREIGN BODY AMONG THE METEORITES! CAN IT BE POSSIBLE THAT THE EARTHMAN SUCCEEDED IN FINDING OUT THE SECRET OF THEIR EXISTENCE?

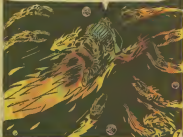
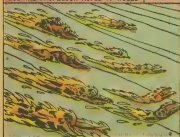
LITTLE GOOD WILL HIS DISCOVERY DO HIM, IF HE HAS ACCOMPLISHED SUCH A THING! I SHALL SEND THE METEORITES BACK TO DESTROY EARTH AT ONCE!



STILL CLINGING TO THE BACK OF THE METEORITE, COSMO WAS BORNE THROUGH THE STRATOSPHERE, SOMEWHERE BEYOND LAY SPACE AND THE SECRET OF THE HUMAN METEORITES. WHEN HE REACHED THERE, WOULD HIS ZEBULON-RAY GUN DO THE JOB THE PROFESSOR HOPED IT WOULD?

SUDDENLY, COSMO REALIZED SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED!

THEY KNOW I'M HERE! THEY MUST HAVE RECEIVED A RADIO-MAGNETIC IMPULSE FROM SOMEWHERE! SO THEY ARE CONTROLLED!



THE METEORITES CLOSED IN. COSMO WAS PULLED FROM THE BACK OF THE ONE HE HAD USED AS A PILOT.

GOT TO GET THE RAY GUN!  
CAN'T GO DOWN WITHOUT TRYING!



THE NEW AND POWERFUL ZEBULON SUPER-MAGNETIZATION RAYS, A FORCE UNTIL NOW WHOLLY UNKNOWN BY THE OTHER WORLDS, BLASTED THE METEORITES INTO THE SPACE BEYOND THE KNOWN UNIVERSE!

IT WORKS! THE MAGNETIC POWER IS DRAWING THEM TOGETHER IN COMPLETE COHESION!

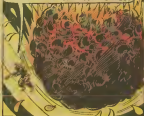


THE PROFESSOR HAD FIGURED OUT THE MAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF THE CONSTITUENT ATOMS AND MOLECULES IN THE VOLCANIC-MATTER FORM OF THE METEORITES. THE ZEBULON SUPER-MAGNETIZATION RAYS, WHEN DIRECTED AT THE MONSTERS, WERE AUTOMATICALLY ABSORBED BY THEM, WITH THE CHARGE SPREADING FROM ONE TO THE OTHER UNTIL THEY BECAME WELDED TOGETHER INTO ANOTHER PLANET THAT COULD BE ANCHORED IN ITS OWN MAGNETIC FIELD BY ANOTHER BLAST FROM THE ZEBULON-RAYS!



AS COSMO IMPRISONED THE NEW PLANET IN ITS OWN MAGNETIC FIELD WITH A FINAL BLAST OF ZEBULON-RAYS, HE FELT HIMSELF FALLING THROUGH SPACE!

WHATEVER IDENTITY THEY HAD AS INDIVIDUAL METEORITES HAS BEEN LOST IN THIS MASS OF MATTER! MY MISSION HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED!



COSMO'S FALL WAS BROKEN BY A SPACE PATROL SHIP THAT SENT OUT SUSTAINING BEAMS. HE WAS TAKEN DIRECTLY TO A CONFERENCE CHAMBER ON THE MOON, WHERE AN EMERGENCY CONFERENCE WAS BEING HELD.

WHEN YOUR RAYS STRUCK THE METEORITES, IT CAUSED REFLEX VIBRATIONS FROM DEUEL'S STATION THAT THE OTHER PLANETS PICKED UP! THEY FOLLOWED THEM, AND FOUND DEUEL'S SET UP! HE WAS THE "BRAIN" OF THE METEORITES!



WE OF JUPITER KNEW NOTHING OF WHAT DEUEL WAS DOING! WE SHALL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HELP REBUILD THE PLANETS HIS METEORITES DESTROYED! DEUEL HIMSELF WILL BE DESTROYED IN OUR DISINTEGRATION MACHINE! HE WILL NEVER AGAIN ENDANGER THE PEACE OF THE UNIVERSE!



THE END

# The Dictator of Japetus

THERE'S NO USE DENYING YOUR GUILT, ZORKA / I HAVE WITNESSES, AND COMPLETE PROOF THAT YOU HEADED THE SPACE PIRACY RING /

IT'S A LIE / I'M BEING FRAMED BY THE EARTH COUNCIL / THANK-- YOU DON'T BELIEVE HIM-- YOU KNOW IT'S ALL A LIE /

I'M SORRY, ZORKA / JOHN MORGAN DEALS IN FACTS / YOU'VE BETRAYED THE TRUST I PLACED IN YOU, AND YOU MUST BE PUNISHED /

ON THE PLANETOID JAPETUS, SATELLITE OF SATURN, A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, ZORKA, PLAYED A DOUBLE ROLE, ONLY TO BE TRAPPED BY JOHN MORGAN, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR OF THE EARTH COUNCIL SECURITY FORCE, AND OUT OF ZORKA'S TREACHERY GREW A PLOT FOR VENGEANCE WHICH THREATENED THE SAFETY OF ALL JAPETUS /

I'LL KILL YOU, MORGAN / IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, I COULD HAVE BECOME THE RICHEST MAN ON JAPETUS /

I, THARK, DIRECTOR OF JAPETUS, WILL PASS PUNISHMENT ON YOU, ZORKA / YOU HAVE DISGRACED THE PEOPLE WHO PLACED THEIR FAITH AND TRUST IN YOU /

THE USUAL PUNISHMENT FOR SPACE PIRACY IS DEATH / BUT I CANNOT BRING MYSELF TO PASS A DEATH SENTENCE ON YOU / INSTEAD, YOU SHALL BE SENT TO CALLISTO-- TO LIVE OUT YOUR DAYS IN EXILE / TAKE HIM AWAY /

DON'T THINK THIS IS THE END, THARK / I'LL HAVE MY REVENGE ON ALL OF YOU SOMEDAY /





I WON'T ROT ON CALLISTO / I'LL BE BACK/ YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, MORGAN/ AND YOU, THARK / YOU'LL ALL PAY!



I NEVER WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THAT ZORKA WOULD DO THIS TO ME!

GREED CAN DO STRANGE THINGS TO MEN/ I DIDN'T INTEND TO HURT YOU, THARK/ BUT I WAS DUTY-BOUND TO RUN THE SPACE PIRATES TO JUSTICE / I DID MY JOB!



OF COURSE, MORGAN-- I UNDERSTAND / AND NOW, MY FRIEND, YOU MUST RETURN TO EARTH AND THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EX?

YES-- BUT BEFORE I GO, I WANT TO SEE MIRA / WE HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT/ I NEVER KNEW WEDDINGS COULD BE SO MUCH TROUBLE!

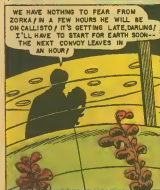


MIRA, MY DARLING / HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE?

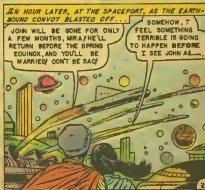
LANDOR-- THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS-- TOLO ME YOU WERE WITH FATHER, PASSING JUDGMENT ON THAT HORRIBLE ZORKA!



OH, JOHN-- I'M AFRAID / ZORKA IS DANGEROUS/ I KNOW HE WILL TRY TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR US ALL!



WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM ZORKA/ IN A FEW HOURS HE WILL BE ON CALLISTO / IT'S GETTING LATE, DARLING/ I'LL HAVE TO START FOR EARTH SOON-- THE NEXT CONVOY LEAVES IN AN HOUR!



TEN HOURS LATER, AT THE SPACEPORT, AS THE EARTH-BOUND CONVOY BLASTED OFF...

JOHN WILL BE GONE FOR ONLY A FEW MONTHS, MIRA/ HE'LL RETURN BEFORE THE SPRING EQUINOX, AND YOU'LL BE MARRIED/ CAN'T BE SAD!

SOMEHOW, I FEEL SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS GOING TO HAPPEN BEFORE I SEE JOHN AGAIN...

SLOWLY, THE WEEKS PASSED, AND ON CALLISTO, THE "DEVIL'S ISLAND" OF THE GALAXY, A GROUP OF OUTLAWS, HEADED BY ZORKA, HATCHED A PLOT...

WELL, SENOR,  
DID YOU GET  
THEM?

OF COURSE! RALEN AND I BROKE INTO  
THE ARSENAL! WE TOOK A DOZEN  
DISINTEGRATOR GUNS!



GOOD! WHEN THEY CHANGE THE GUARD  
MOUNT TONIGHT AT 1900, YOU MEN KNOW  
WHAT TO DO! START SHOOTING, AND GET  
EVERY GUARD! THEN, INTO THE SPACE SHIPS—  
AND WE MEET ON TETHYS!



THAT EVENING, AT 1900...

THIS IS OUR CHANCE!  
THEY SUSPECT NOTHING!  
REMEMBER-- ONE VOLLEY,  
AND THEN BREAK FOR  
THE SPACE SHIPS! SHOW  
NO MERCY!

DON'T WORRY,  
ZORKA! THERE  
ISN'T A MAN  
HERE WHO  
KNOWS THE  
MEANING OF  
THE WORD!



JAY ZORKA'S COMMAND, THE DESPERATE OUTLAWS OPENED  
FIRE ON THE UNSUSPECTING GUARDS!

NOW!  
OPEN  
FIRE!

AHH! LOOK  
AT 'EM BURN!



QUICK! INTO THE SHIPS AND  
BLAST OFF! MEET AT TETHYS!



LATER, ON THE BARREN, FORE-  
BODDING PLANETOID TETHYS, SA-  
TELLITE OF URANUS, THESE SPACE  
CRIMINALS GATHERED, AND ZORKA'S  
EVIL MIND HATCHED YET ANOTHER  
PLAN...

WE'RE SAFE HERE ON  
TETHYS! IT'LL TAKE AN ARMY TO  
DRIVE US OUT OF THESE CAVES!  
AND HERE, WE'RE GOING TO FORM  
OUR OWN ARMY!

WHAT DO YOU  
MEAN, ZORKA?



JUST AS CALLISTO IS THE  
PRISON OF THE GALAXY, WE'LL  
TURN TETHYS INTO THE HEAD-  
QUARTERS OF CRIME! WE'LL  
BRING TOGETHER EVERY OUTLAW  
IN THE GALAXY, RAID THE  
SPACE LANES, BURN AND KILL,  
AND GROW RICH! WE'LL BUILD  
AN EMPIRE OF CRIME  
IN SPACE!



ZORKA CARRIED OUT HIS PLAN / THE SCUM OF THE GALAXY GATHERED ON TETHYS, AND HE LOOSED A BRUTAL REIGN OF TERROR, WHICH SHOWED MERCY TO NO ONE!



BUT IN THE BACK OF ZORKA'S TWISTED MIND WAS A SCHEME--A BURNING FLAME THAT KEPT ALIVE THE BLAZING HATRED OF HIS REVENGE. AND ONE DAY, ZORKA REVEALED THE BOLDEST STROKE OF ALL!

THERE IS WHERE WE STRIKE NEXT! WE'RE THROUGH WITH LIVING IN CAVES, ON THIS FORSAKEN PLANETOID! THERE IS LOTS OF WEALTH, AND COMFORT WAITING FOR US...

ZORKA / YOU'RE POINTING TO JAPETUS! YOU MEAN...?



THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE GOING TO TAKE THE PLANETOID JAPETUS! AND WE'LL START BY CAPTURING MALOR, THE CAPITOL! I HAVE A FEW SCORES TO SETTLE THERE!

BUT SUPPOSE THEY CONTACT THE EARTH COUNCIL, AND THEY SEND THE SECURITY FORCE AFTER US?



THE ATMOSPHERE PUMPING STATION FOR JAPETUS IS LOCATED IN MALOR! IF WE CONTROL THAT, THEY'LL DO ANYTHING WE SAY! OR ELSE WE'LL SMASH THE STATION, AND BLAST OFF, AND SIT BACK WHILE THE WHOLE PLANETOID DIES FOR LACK OF AIR!

LANDING IN AN ISOLATED SECTION OF JAPETUS, ZORKA MOVED HIS MEN INTO POSITION TO ATTACK THE DIRECTORATE BUILDING...

RALEN--TAKE A DOZEN MEN AND SEIZE THE ATMOSPHERE PLANT! WE'LL CAPTURE THE DIRECTORATE BUILDING!

AGREED, ZORKA!



AT A GIVEN SIGNAL...

FORWARD!

SOUND THE ALARM! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!



THARK'S GUARDS FOUGHT BRAVELY, BUT FUTILELY, AGAINST THE BRUTAL OUTLAWS, AND WERE SLAIN TO THE LAST MAN!



PERHAPS! AND PERHAPS NOT! WE'LL CONTACT THARK, AND LET HIM KNOW THAT WE HOLD THE ATMOSPHERE PLANT, AND HIS DAUGHTER! HE'LL GIVE IN TO MY DEMANDS! HE'LL MAKE ME DIRECTOR OF JAPETUS!

MY FATHER IS NO COWARD! YOU CAN'T BULLY HIM!



LATER, ON THE TELE-COMMUNICATOR...

WE MEET AGAIN, THARK! LISTEN CLOSELY! YOUR DAUGHTER MIRA IS IN MY POWER! I CONTROL THE ATMOSPHERE STATION! EITHER YOU APPOINT ME DIRECTOR, AND AGREE THAT MIRA BECOMES MY WIFE, OR ELSE, SHE DIES!

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE ANSWER, ZORKA! I AGREE! I SHALL RETURN TO MALOR IN THE MORNING!



THE CONVERSATION ENDED, THEN THE WISE THARK MOVED QUICKLY...

JANDRO! TAKE THE FASTEST MINI-JET SPACE CRUISER, AND PROCEED TO EARTH! TELL JOHN MORGAN AT EARTH COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS WHAT HAPPENED! GO AT ONCE!



SOON, AT THE EARTH COUNCIL...

SO THAT'S IT, EH? VERY WELL-- WE'LL BLAST OFF FOR JAPETUS AT ONCE, WITH A PICKED SECURITY FORCE SHOCK TROOP!

GOOD! THARK WILL AWAIT US AT VECTOR-93!



MEANWHILE, THE NEXT DAY...

SO YOUR FATHER IS NO COWARD, EH? HE GAVE IN TO MY EVERY DEMAND! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU! HE'D NEVER AGREE...



SUDDENLY...

LISTEN! IT'S THARK, AND THE SECURITY FORCE/  
JOHN MORGAN'S LEADING THEM! THEY'RE  
BLASTING US WITH ELECTRONIC CANNON/  
THEY CAPTURED ALL OUR OUTPOSTS! WE  
BETTER GET OUT OF HERE! BENOZ  
IS KILLED!

HA! YOU CROWED  
TOO SOON, ZORKA!



ZORKA AND GALON CARRIED THE UNCONSCIOUS  
GIRL TO THE SEALED ATMOSPHERE ROOM OF  
THE PUMPING STATION...

WHAT  
HAPPENED,  
ZORKA?

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK BY  
THE SECURITY FORCES! BUT  
DON'T WORRY! WE'RE STILL  
HOLDING ALL THE CARDS!



AS ZORKA EXPECTED, PANIC  
SWEEPED THE PEOPLE...

KILL MORGAN! SEND THE  
SECURITY FORCE AWAY! WE  
WANT TO LIVE!

WHAT CAN  
WE DO, MORGAN?

THERE  
MUST BE A WAY  
INTO THAT PUMP-  
ING STATION!



VIXEN! GIVE ME A HAND WITH HER,  
GALON! WE'LL TAKE HER TO THE  
ATMOSPHERE CONTROL STATION!

RIGHT, ZORKA!



LATER, IN THE STREETS OF MALOR, TERROR STRIPPED THE  
HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE AS THEY HEARD AN ANNOUNCEMENT  
OVER THE AUDIO-ATTENUATOR, LOCATED IN THE PUMPING  
STATION...

THIS IS ZORKA! UNLESS JOHN MORGAN IS KILLED,  
AND THE SECURITY FORCE WITHDRAWN, I SHALL  
DESTROY THE PUMPING STATION!

I DON'T CARE WHAT  
HAPPENS, MORGAN!  
I CAN'T KILL YOU!

ZORKA IS A FIEND!  
HE KNOWS HOW HIS  
ANNOUNCEMENT WILL  
AFFECT THE PEOPLE!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, NEAR  
THE PUMPING STATION...

RICHARDS--ATTACK FROM THE  
FRONT! GET THROUGH AT ALL  
COSTS! I'M GOING TO SLIP  
THROUGH THOSE OUTLET VENTS!  
THEY ALL LEAD TO THE SEALED  
ATMOSPHERE ROOM!

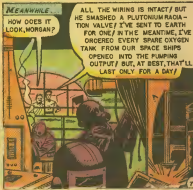
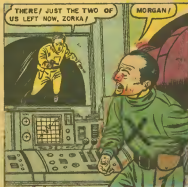
ALL RIGHT,  
SIR! WE'LL GET  
THROUGH AS SOON  
AS WE CAN!



THIS BETTER  
WORK!









THE END

**"The bonds William and I bought  
for our country's defense  
helped build a house for us!"**

**HOW U. S. SAVINGS BONDS PAID OFF  
FOR MRS. ROSE NYSSÉ OF BRISTOL, PA.**

*"There's nothing more wonderful than a house  
and garden of your own," says Mrs. Nyssé,  
"and no surer way to own one than to save for it  
through U. S. Savings Bonds and the  
safe, sure Payroll Savings Plan!"*



Mrs. Rose Nyssé says, "In 1942 William and I started making U. S. Savings Bonds a part of our plan for financial security. I joined the Payroll Savings Plan at the Sweetheart Soap Co. where I work, and began buying a \$100 bond a month, knowing my money was safe and working for me. U. S. Savings Bonds certainly make saving easier!"

**You can do what the Nyssés are doing  
—the time to start is now!**

Maybe you can't save quite as much as William and Rose Nyssé; maybe you can save more. But the important thing is to *start now!* It only takes three simple steps.

1. Make the big decision—to put saving *first*—before you even draw your pay.
2. Decide to save a regular amount systematically, week after week, or month after month. Even small sums, saved on a systematic basis, become a large sum in an amazingly short time!
3. Start saving by signing up today in the Payroll Savings Plan where you work.

You'll be providing security not only for yourself and your family, but for the blessed free way of life that's so very important to every American.

**FOR YOUR SECURITY, AND YOUR  
COUNTRY'S TOO, SAVE NOW—  
THROUGH REGULAR PURCHASE OF  
U. S. SAVINGS BONDS!**



"Savings Bonds alone made a \$5,000 down payment on our house!" says Mrs. Nyssé. "All-together, we've saved \$8,000 just in bonds bought through Payroll Savings, and we are keeping right on. When we retire, our bonds will make the difference between comfort and just getting by. Bonds offer a patriotic and practical way to security."



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# An Amazing NEW HEALTH SUPPORTER BELT

For men in their 30's, 40's, 50's  
who want to  
**LOOK SLIMMER**  
and  
**FEEL YOUNGER**

**DOES** a bulging "bay window" make you look and feel years older than you really are? Then here, at last, is the answer to your problem! "Chevalier", the wonderful new adjustable health supporter belt is scientifically constructed to help you look and feel years younger!

## The CHEVALIER

**LIFTS AND FLATTENS YOUR BULGING "BAY WINDOW"**

Why go on day after day with an "old-man's" misshapen bulge... or with a tired back that needs positive support? Just see how "Chevalier" brings you vital control where you need it most! "Chevalier" has a built-in strap. You adjust the belt the way you want. Frontal Your "bay-window" bulge is lifted in... fastened out-just you feel wonderfully comfortable!



**POSTURE BAD?**  
Got a "Bay Window"?



**DO YOU ENVY MEN**  
who can  
**"KEEP ON THEIR FEET"?**

and then he got a  
**"CHEVALIER"**



**YOU NEED A**  
**"CHEVALIER"!**

### FRONT ADJUSTMENT

Works quick as a flash! Simply adjust the strap and presto! The belt is perfectly adjusted to your greatest comfort!



### DITCHABLE POUCH

Advanced! Scientifically designed and made to give wonderful support and protection!

### Neatful, Enjoyable Abdominal Control

It's great! You can wear "Chevalier" all day long. We can bind or make you feel unbinded. That's because the framework of stretch cloth gives the best adjustment bring you personalized fit. The "Chevalier" is designed according to scientific facts of beautiful posture control. It's made by experts to give you the comfort and beautiful "girth" you want. Just see all the wonderful features below. And remember—you can get the "Chevalier" on **FREE TRIAL**, just the coupon right now!

### TWO-WAY S-T-E-T-C-H WONDER CLOTH

Firmly holds in your flabby abdomen, yet stretches like a net on your breasts, back, stomach, and neck, etc.



Peer Your  
**FITS SNUG AT SMALL OF BACK**  
Firm, comfortable support feels good!

**FREE** Extra! Peeph! The Chevalier has a removable pouch made of a soft, comfortable fabric that absorbs perspiration. So that you can change it regularly we include an extra pouch. Limited offer. Order yours today.

## FREE TRIAL OFFER

1. You risk nothing! Just mail coupon-be sure to give name and address, also waist measure, etc. — and mail TODAY!



2. Try on the Chevalier! Adjust belt the way you want. See how your bulging "bay window" looks shrunken! ... how comfortable! You feel New and 10!



3. Wear the "Chevalier" for 10 whole days if you want to! Wear it to work, recreation, while, bed, etc. The "Chevalier" must help you look and feel "like a million" or you can send it back! See offer in coupon!



## SEND NO MONEY: JUST MAIL COUPON

**RONNIE SALES, INC.** Dept. 9311-E  
487 Broadway, New York 13, N. Y.

Send me for 10 days' **FREE TRIAL** in CHEVALIER HEALTH-SUPPORTER BELT. I will pay nothing \$2.95 (plus postage) with the understanding that includes my **FREE** pouch. In 10 days, I will either return CHEVALIER to you and you will return my money, or otherwise my payment will be a full and final purchase price.

My waist measure is \_\_\_\_\_ (Send along the size of your waist if no tape measure is handy)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Save a 3¢ postage. We pay postage if you enclose payment now. Same Free Trial and refund privilege.

**RONNIE SALES, INC.** Dept. 9311-E 487 Broadway, N. Y. 13, N. Y.

# Space Actions

3

Oct. 1954

Cornell

Mission Time	Chambers 4	7
Flight From Descent	Jim McLachlan	7
Booster Test History Reports	M	8
Duration of Launch	Summary 4	8